

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 036418 TOSEC 020078  
ORIGIN MCT-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SS-15 PC-01 NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00  
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 PRS-01 PA-01 USIE-00  
AID-05 L-03 /046 R

DRAFTED BY M/CT:RPMYERS:DR  
APPROVED BY M/CT:AMB. HECK  
ARA/AND:DWCOX  
S/S-OR. SEBASTIAN  
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION  
PEACE CORPS

-----171652 080692 /43

O 171640Z FEB 77 ZFF5  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE  
INFO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 036418 TOSEC 020078

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, CO, ASEC, CASC

SUBJECT:EL BOGOTANO ARTICLE ON PCV STARR

REF: BOGOTA 01538

1. ARTICLE IN EL BOGOTANO WHICH ALLEGED THAT STARR IS  
A CIA AGENT COULD HAVE SIGNIFICANT AND HIGHLY NEGATIVE  
IMPACT ON THE EVOLUTION OF THIS CASE. ONE NEED THINK  
ONLY OF MITRIONE CASE IN URUGUAY WHERE GUERRILLAS USED  
SPECIOUS ALLEGATION OF USAID ADVISER MITRIONE'S "CIA  
CONNECTION" TO JUSTIFY THEIR MURDERING HIM.

2. USIS STATEMENT TO ALL MEDIA, CITED REFTEL, WAS  
EXCELLENT FIRST STEP, BUT WE CAN NOT HELP BUT WONDER  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 036418 TOSEC 020078

WHETHER IT SHOULD NOT BE FOLLOWED UP BY A DIRECT APPROACH  
TO THE PUBLISHER OF EL BOGOTANO BY PEACE CORPS DIRECTOR,  
ACCOMPANIED, IF APPROPRIATE, BY PAO. HE COULD PROTEST  
IN THE MOST STRENUOUS TERMS THE PUBLICATION OF AN  
ARTICLE WHICH IS SO OBVIOUSLY BASED UPON A TOTAL FIGMENT  
OF IMAGINATION, ADDING THAT MERE PUBLICATION OF SUCH  
INCENDIARY ALLEGATIONS COULD WELL IMPERIL THE LIFE OF

A YOUNG MAN WHO WAS INVITED TO COLOMBIA BY THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT TO ENGAGE IN A SCIENTIFIC PROJECT TO BENEFIT THE COLOMBIAN PEOPLE. IF A PUBLIC RETRACTION OF THE

ARTICLE IS A POSSIBILITY, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE IN STARR'S BEST INTEREST FOR PC DIRECTOR TO URGE EL BOGOTANO PUBLISHER TO CARRY SUCH RETRACTION IN PROMINENT POSITION, HOPEFULLY ON FRONT PAGE, OF EL BOGOTANO'S NEXT EDITION. (COMMENT: WE DO NOT THINK IT WOULD BE EXAGGERATING TO MAKE CLEAR TO EL BOGOTANO PUBLISHER THAT, SHOULD STARR BE MURDERED, HIS NEWSPAPER COULD BE HELD AT LEAST IN PART RESPONSIBLE. END COMMENT).

3. IF YOU DECIDE TO PURSUE COURSE OUTLINED ABOVE, GOC SHOULD BE KEPT FULLY INFORMED. IN FACT, GOC MAY WISH TO HAVE APPROPRIATE OFFICIAL ACCOMPANY PEACE CORPS DIRECTOR AND/OR MAKE A PARALLEL DEMARCHE OF ITS OWN TO EL BOGOTANO PUBLISHER.

HARTMAN

SECRET

NNN

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 036418  
ORIGIN MCT-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-02 ISO-00 SSO-00 /004 R

66011

DRAFTED BY M/CT;RPMYERS

APPROVED BY M/CT:MR. KARKASHIAN

S/S:SGOLDSMITH

-----230055 004814 /63

O 230035Z FEB 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 036418

FOL RPT STATE 036418 ACTION BOGOTA INFO USDEL SECRETARY  
17 FEB 77 QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 036418 TOSEC 020078

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, CO, ASEC, CASC

SUBJECT:EL BOGOTANO ARTICLE ON PCV STARR

REF: BOGOTA 01538

1. ARTICLE IN EL BOGOTANO WHICH ALLEGED THAT STARR IS A CIA AGENT COULD HAVE SIGNIFICANT AND HIGHLY NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE EVOLUTION OF THIS CASE. ONE NEED THINK ONLY OF MITRIONE CASE IN URUGUAY WHERE GUERRILLAS USED SPECIOUS ALLEGATION OF USAID ADVISER MITRIONE'S "CIA CONNECTION" TO JUSTIFY THEIR MURDERING HIM.

2. USIS STATEMENT TO ALL MEDIA, CITED REFTTEL, WAS EXCELLENT FIRST STEP, BUT WE CAN NOT HELP BUT WONDER  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 036418

WHETHER IT SHOULD NOT BE FOLLOWED UP BY A DIRECT APPROACH TO THE PUBLISHER OF EL BOGOTANO BY PEACE CORPS DIRECTOR, ACCOMPANIED, IF APPROPRIATE, BY PAO. HE COULD PROTEST IN THE MOST STRENUOUS TERMS THE PUBLICATION OF AN ARTICLE WHICH IS SO OBVIOUSLY BASED UPON A TOTAL FIGMENT OF IMAGINATION, ADDING THAT MERE PUBLICATION OF SUCH INCENDIARY ALLEGATIONS COULD WELL IMPERIL THE LIFE OF A YOUNG MAN WHO WAS INVITED TO COLOMBIA BY THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT TO ENGAGE IN A SCIENTIFIC PROJECT TO BENEFIT THE COLOMBIAN PEOPLE. IF A PUBLIC RETRACTION OF THE

ARTICLE IS A POSSIBILITY, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE IN STARR'S BEST INTEREST FOR PC DIRECTOR TO URGE EL BOGOTANO PUBLISHER TO CARRY SUCH RETRACTION IN PROMINENT POSITION, HOPEFULLY ON FRONT PAGE, OF EL BOGOTANO'S NEXT EDITION. (COMMENT: WE DO NOT THINK IT WOULD BE EXAGGERATING TO MAKE CLEAR TO EL BOGOTANO PUBLISHER THAT, SHOULD STARR BE MURDERED, HIS NEWSPAPER COULD BE HELD AT LEAST IN PART RESPONSIBLE. END COMMENT).

3. IF YOU DECIDE TO PURSUE COURSE OUTLINED ABOVE, GOC SHOULD BE KEPT FULLY INFORMED. IN FACT, GOC MAY WISH TO HAVE APPROPRIATE OFFICIAL ACCOMPANY PEACE CORPS DIRECTOR AND/OR MAKE A PARALLEL DEMARCHE OF ITS OWN TO EL BOGOTANO PUBLISHER.  
HARTMAN

UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** KIDNAPPING, PRESS COMMENTS, ALLEGATIONS, ESPIONAGE AGENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 17-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE036418  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RPMYERS:DR  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770057-0271  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770231/aaaabbdo.tel  
**Line Count:** 166  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** f69517c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN MCT  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 BOGOTA 1538  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3293775  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EL BOGOTANO ARTICLE ON PCV STARR  
**TAGS:** PINS, ASEC, CASC, CO, US, CIA, EL BOGOTANO, (STARR)  
**To:** BOGOTA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/f69517c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009